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THE

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MODERN

K. E., C.

QUERISTS

Examined, or a Word of Advice to the
Scriblers on both Sides of the present
Important, and interesting Question.

*He know's what's what, and that's
As high as Metaphisick Wit can Fly.*

Hudibras.

L O N D O N:

Printed by *Honest Blunt*, at the Sign of *Ireland's
Eye*, in *Telltruth Alley*, 1754.

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present is the best time for the
publication of this work.



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T H E

Modern QUERISTS examined, or A Word of Advice to the Scribes On both Sides of the present Important, and Interesting Question.

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Hudibras.

IT is incontestably true, that when a Writer, in defence of any Cause or Opinion, interlards his Arguments with personal reflections, Scurrill and Billingsgate invectives, it is at least to be Violently suspected, the Malice of his Heart or the Lankness of his Purse was the chiefe motive or inducement for him to take up his Pen.

Such Writers rather weaken and hurt a Cause or Opinion than maintain and support it, it is certain these sort of Compositions go down with the Herd and furnish matter for Chat at a Guzzling Match, to those whose Education rises no higher than a Fish-market, but they can be in no sort agreeable to Men of Polite and refined Understandings who Strip such Performances of their foul Dresses and candidly and impartially Examine them naked, and approve or disapprove as they find them consonant to, or dissenting from, truth Common

mon Sense and right reason, has not the conduct
 of the P——ts of I——d, already been put
 in a true and shining point of Light by that faithfull
 Mirrour the U——l A——r, has the Arguments
 therein in defence of Patriotism been ever con-
 futed tho' often vainly attempted; and are they
 not treasured up and enrolled as absolute unap-
 pealable and irreversibile Decrees in the study
 of each Gentleman, who wishes well to Liberty
 in General, and has the true intrest of his Country,
 at Heart in particular, if so what can be meant
 by the Querists, but to Gratifie some particular
 Malice or Prejudice, or to replenish an exhausted
 Purse, and thereby dishonestly find the means of
 eating tho' at the Expence of the publick peace,
 and Tranquility; or what is worse, have not
 these mercenary Hackney Scribblers it in view,
 to enflame the minds of the People; set fire to
 the Nation at both ends that they may have an
 Opportunity of running away with something
 out of the conflagration, the sober and Judici-
 ous part of the Nation, Men of property and
 power find that our Liberty now stands firmly
 fixed upon a steady and immoveable Bassis; this
 the Bulk of the People, or those of Groser Un-
 derstandings cannot preceive, in this Case it is
 very much to be feared and apprehended; that
 the latter ever fluctuating always insatiable and
 who never steadily and directly drive to the
 true point, of what they wou'd be at may by
 such Writings be enraged even against those Glo-
 rious Patrons of their rights, and mistaking their
 serene and calm Measures, for indolence or
 in-

indifference fall upon them, and open a Gap for Anarchy and all it's dreadfull Companions to enter in at, and consequently destroy both themselves and the Nation, most true it is, that every honest Man who has a head turned for it, is indispensibly obliged if he finds the Liberty of his Country in a dangerous and tottering Condition to endeavour to support and maintain it, even when fixed and establish'd, by every rational way and means that he can devise or think of, but surely such Writings have not a Tendency that way, but on the contrary are levelled at the Foundation of it, therefore these Gentlemen ought seriously to consider the dismal and pernicious Consequences that may attend such productions, and in their future Writings put truth in her native Beauty which never appears so lovely as when naked and without the unskillfull Daubing of Gross and coarse Painting.

Or if you will be at your Queries and Inuendo's, and have really the true interest of the Causes you seem to espouse at heart; why are you not more explicit, why do you not come roundly to the point, and like Men of probity courage and Honour strip the Masks of those weakly very weakly painted Villains Faces, your enervate arrows but faintly, so very faintly, glance at, if the H ——— P ——— has been suspected to be Guilty of the Horrid, and Vengeance drawing down Sin of S ——— y, why did you not Trace the first appearances thereof to a demonstration, and call him to a Legal account and deserved punishment for it, no on the Contrary before you were so prepared upon

a supposition that he is guilty, have you not before matters cou'd be brought into proof shielded him from Punishment, will he not if he be Guilty be more wary and cautious in the monstrous and unnatural Amour and Industriously conceal it from all Eyes, but those of Heaven, in the mean time may not a perseverance, in the Great Example and consequently a great and difusive Extention of this Sin exposes us, to nay plunge us into the fate of S ~~am~~ and G ~~om~~, or if it was impossible for you so to do, tho' you stood fully convinced of the truth of the facts you Charge, cou'd you not with Cogency of Argument broke through the extravagantly monstrous Passion, set reason in its true light, have urged the Scriptures those incontestable Oracles of Truth, and have from thence shewn that the Primary command was to encrease and multiply, and how dissonant, to nay how diametrically opposite to that indispenfible and high Behest is that in expreffibly foul and antinatural practice to which we were heretofore altogether strangers, and which was so lately imported to and has so lamentably spread amongst us, and changed us from what we were once called an Island of Saints, into a Nation of Devils.

Shou'd you not have shewn that in consequence of that detestable Sin, the Nation in time must be depopulated at least weaken'd to such a degree, as must necessarily open a way for our Enemies, to enter in at and destroy the remainder of us, or Establish Popery and Slavery, these two things so much dreaded and worse than death
itself,

itself, and which has cost so much blood and treasure to keep out, will not in this Case the light of the Gospel which shone so brightly among us be extinguished, and who will be answerable for all these dismal events it is very obvious to judge, nor will you yourselves be free from the Guilt who so very weakly endeavour to stem the torrent of Vice, that at present so dreadfully threatens to overwhelm us all, since you are capable of opposing it much more effectually than you hitherto have done.

Cou'd you not have made it appear, that these abominable Wretches only wear the mask of Loyalty, and that however they make Pompous and exterior shews of affection and inviolable attachment to his Majesty and his royal House, *they are privately and behind our backs vigorously drawing at the destruction of both K—— and People,* had you done this in a clear and explicit manner wou'd it not have had attendancy to, or draw the Eyes of power upon the offenders, or rather, is it not very natural to suppose that had you done this the three Estates of the Nation, the Civil and Military power wou'd be put into Execution, to fight against, and utterly exterminate this powerfull Army of incarnated Devils that has crept in among us, and is ravaging and laying waste our Country.

Shou'd not you who no doubt are true Protestants, and not the less but the more so for attacking of the H-~~eretic~~ *Papist*, have consider'd, how much the Commission of such Crimes are against the interests of your Religion, which you
are

are bound to maintain even at the expence of your Lives, will it not be said by it's inveterate and natural enemies, who long have laboured and still are labouring for it's subversion that now is the time, to strike when a darling and Mitred Son of the Church who engrosses so much of her Revenues, has behaved so very oppositely and contrary to the true spirit and principles of Christianity, Humanity, and Morality, and so flagrantly departed from the Apostolical simplicity and purity, that he is sunk into Luxury sensuality and what is still worse Brutality. Will they not say that the imposition of hands is a meer Church Cheat, and juggle, and that the Holy Ghost was not among us when the ~~High Priest~~ ^{High Priest} was constituted to preside over the Ecclesiastical Affairs of this Nation, and consequently, that by such a formality it cou'd not be communicated to him who has acted so much against its dictates and holy influence and will they not accordingly now strike and shou'd you not have disrobed this beastly ~~High Priest~~ ^{High Priest} of his outward Vell of Sanctity opened the Eyes of the People and shewn them his cloven Foot, was it not your duty with respect to your own Consciences, your fellow subjects in particular and fellow Christians in General to have shewn that this prelatically dignified swaggerer and Bully in Religion, as well as Politics instead of supporting the true interests of the Reformation, sealed by the Blood of ten thousand Martyrs, and therefore (among other causes) as we very rationally supposed immovably fixed upon so steady a Basis that the Gates of

of Hell cou'd not prevail against it before the importation of this Missionary destroying Devil, has sapped the Foundations of it, and thro' the Vile and Contaminated Postern of his darling *Gaudente Cunningham* has let in his Grand Master the Arch Devil, and his innumerable subalterns to Demolish and destroy it, if this shou'd happen (which Heaven avert) what may be the fate of the Protestant interest abroad, will not the Argument be carried against it, and by shewing that the Reformation fell among us, where it shoun in its greatest beauty and Lustre must it not Expect the same, it is indeed very true that among the Apostles there was one of them apostatized who to a Base Lucrative end sold and betrayed the Saviour of the World, a Crime inexpressibly horrid indeed, but it must be considered that this wicked Betrayer was but a probationer in sanctity, and consequently the more capable of falling, and as he had not then the Power of the Holy Ghost operating in him which was afterwards given to the rest of the Apostles; and so strongly actuated them, and which has been inherited by their true Successors down to this time, the shedding of the Blood of Christ, which brought about the Salvation of Mankind, can in no sort be construed into an Alleviation of the Guilt of Judas.

He had no Church Revenues, did not ride in a Glittering Coach and Six, was extremely poor and unassisted by the Holy Ghost, or Grace, and under powerfull Temptations. These Considerations in meer human apprehensions, might be a great

great way at least to move Pity for the Case of the unhappy Judas : But the Scriptures teach us an other Lesson ; what then must be the Case of our great and modern Apostle, who has no such Circumstances to Plead in his favour, but is glutted and gorged with Church Revenues, and to the sacred Purple adds the Shining Robe of Civil Power was under, no Temptations of Poverty, and had the Holy Ghost to govern and direct him, yet alas ! he has bartered his own Soul, and those of thousands ; and endanger'd many more, by his great and prescriptive example for the worse than swinish pleasure of secretly entering in at the Postern of a foul and nasty stew, to gratifie the most monstrous Salacity ; and (if you thought him Guilty) shou'd you not have shewn after all this, that this imperious ~~A~~ Priest, lost to all Sense of Shame and Modesty, with a consummate, or rather an unparalell'd Impudence, keeps his Countenance, still resides among us, and will not export himself, but with an insolent contempting air stares the Ladies in the Face ; even the ~~I~~ ~~in~~ Ladies ! by far, or so much the most Beautifull part of the Creation, that they infinitely, or as much outshine the most Beautifull part of their own Sex or other Nations, as a Meridian Sun doth a small Taper.

Shou'd you not have taken up your Pens in defence of these injured and affronted fair ones, and their Empire of Beauty, which from the begining stood immoveable, unrival'd, and unmeasurably sway'd Loves Sceptre, and who were the delight of every Eye, and ruled in every Heart, untill

untill these worst of Savages, these degenerated Monsters in human shape by a most unaccountable and inexpressibly vile and inferior preference, attack'd and rendered it precarious, and that if we continue to be careless inactive lookers on, and will not interfere, and exert ourselves in a Re-establishment of the natural Hereditary, and indubitable rights of these Lovely injured Females, the Ornament and Glory of our Isle, shall we not (I mean as many of us as yet remain untainted in our Loyalty to them) by such an indifference be looked upon in some sort, as Partizans in the Guilt, or Pusillanimous, and useless Subjects, who have not Courage enough to assert the Prerogative of Female Beauty, when a Spiritual Weapon is carnalized, and preserves its edge in a Military Sheath resolutely, and against all considerations and obligations, as well human and divine is employed against it, and in that Case ought they not to Sequester themselves from us, and in a just resentment become a Nation of Amazons, or bless some worthier Community of Men with their most unnaturally, and unjustly, neglected Charms, and like the celebrated * Coventry and Hamilton find a due value put upon their perfections abroad, which we were Ignorant or Stupid enough not to do at home, shou'd you not have shewn how great and prevalent an influence

* *The Countess of Coventry and Dutchess Hamilton Brandon, two Irish Ladies and Sisters, formerly Miss Gunnings.*

influence our Ladies had on our true Politicks and Patriotism, before this strange vice which we are now treating of, and which indeed I must Inge- nuously confess I have not Language or Terms sufficient enough to convey an Adequate Idea of, was imported to us by this Black, meerly nomi- nal Christian, but in fact Antichristian Turbulent Domineering A — h P — t, and others of his Diabolical Stamp, those palpably incarnated Devils, the Vicegerents and Missionaries of the Prince of Darkness, shou'd you not have shewn that our Noble Youth pursue the bright Tract to Fame, perhaps more Ardently than any others in the Universe, and that we produce Scholars, Divines, Patriots, Statesmen, Lawyers, Soldiers, Poets, &c. and in the Arts and Sciencies in General, are equal if not superior to those of any Nation in the World beside, and that our Ladies, as they so much outshine all others in outward Charms, so do they infinitely excell them in the Beauties and refinements of the Mind, how sprightly is their Wit, how charming, how irresistably charming is their Eloquence, what Heart composed of Flesh and Blood can with- stand them, and not feel the softest, the tenderest Emotions for them, and Languish to be made one with these Lovely Female Orators, so wise- ly and beneficently fitted and prepared by the Omnisient Maker to sweeten Life and give an Antetaste of that Eternal and unutterable Happi- ness reserved, for the Truly Great and Good and Virtuous, which G — 's and S — 's must never, never, even so much as hope to en- joy

joy but on the contrary, as Conscience cannot be totally hush'd or stifled in the most hardened and very worst of Men, nay even in the G — —'s and S — — —'s who act in such direct opposition to the sense of the yet untainted part of the community, among whom they reside to Religion both natural and reveal'd, and to all Laws humane and divine, so these poor Wretches thoughtless as they are, have a dreadfull and distracting prospect of the punishments, the eternal punishments reserved for them as a reward for their horrid and monstrous Sins, and anticipate their Damnation even in this World amidst the Pomp, the Grandeur, and Splendour of Temporal Greatness, branched out into almost innumerable particulars, so that Imaginations tortured to find out new Amusements, or new dress old ones, and give them their utmost force to Shield them against the never dying gnawing Worm of Conscience, but alas! in vain, these punishments periodically appear clad in their native horror, and appear terrible in proportion to the greatness of monstrous and conscious guilt, so that it may be very properly said of these abandoned and undone Wretches that they work out their eternal perdition, and serve the Devil with fear and trembling, punishments, that the Eye of Man hath not fully seen, nor the Heart of Man adequately conceiv'd; and of such a nature that whether we consider the variety, quality, and extent, or the duration of them or both, it is amazing and surprizingly unaccountable that any Man however diverted, amused, and entertained, can even bear a single apprehension

apprehension of and not fall into direktion of Spirit and the deepest despair.

If what we have said of our Ladies be true as most certain it is, shou'd you not have shewn, that one principle inducement to our young Gentlemen to pursue that Coy Mistress Fame, is that they may be the more acceptable to them, and how great a part they have in making Scholars, Divines, Patriots, Statesmen, Lawyers, Soldiers and Poets, and how much the Flourishing State of the Arts and Sciences owes to them, and that if ~~Sollicit~~ practices and G ——— sin's prevail continue and extend themselves among us, (as it is very much to be feared and apprehended they will, unless a sudden stop be put thereto) our Ladies must be neglected, fall into discredit and lose that happy influence so usefull to us, or rather so productive of that temporal happiness we in such a high degree enjoyed, and cou'd vie with the happiest of other Nations, for before these destroyers were sent among us, and consequently that we shall in future Time and very shortly too want Scholars, Divines, Statesmen, Lawyers, Soldiers and Poets, at least that we shall not have so many of them as we heretofore had, when our Ladies unrivaled and uncontourably had the sole Dominion of Hearts and pointed out the way to true Glory.

It now remains for us seriously to consider by the Commission of what particular Sins, and an hardned and impenitent perseverance in them we deserved this heavy Curse that has fallen upon us, and why the worst Fiends of Hell have been let
lose

loose upon us, upon such an Examination shall we not find that Pride, that Captain General of the great Vices (so much abhorrid and detested by our Virtuous Forefathers, but now most mistakenly held for the Mark of a great mind) has been the Devils Ambassador and Plenipotentiary to treat with us about our Souls, and that alas! he has been too, too successfull in his Negotiation. And that the Preliminaries once agreed upon and settled, we fell from our Obedience became Rebelious to the King of Kings, (who tells us his Yoke is easy and is Burthen Light) and entered ourselves into the Service of, and Voluntarily became Slaves to the most Cruel and Oppressive of all Tyrants, and for the poor Pay of a few Years Pleasure in this World, which is but lent to us, and for which we must eternally pay such Interest in the next World have forfeited and given up our right to a Crown of Glory; shall we not upon such an Enquiry, find that Pride is introductive to and leads directly to Frauds, Wrongs, Oppressions, Cruelty and Murder, and to sum up all to the want of Charity that admirable Queen of all the Vertues and truly distinguishing Characteristick and Badge of Christianity, which as the Holy Ghost tells us covers a Multitude of Sins, how great, how extensive must we conceive that Parent Virtue to be, that is not only capable of covering, but actually does cover so great a Multitude, a Multitude almost Innumerable, generated forth and nourished by Pride the great Root or Trunk and Grand Parent of them all, this is the Disease, a Disease so complicated, terrible, consuming

consuming and malign in its own Nature, that all the Orators that have been in the World now are or here after shall be to the dissolution thereof, put together and collected into one cou'd not fully describe, but where is the Cure it is easy, it is Obvious, Fly to the Throne of Mercy, the Avenues leading to it are sweet and pleasant, you'l be receiv'd with a smile and have easier access to it than to the A ——— P ———, its Levee practice the contrary Virtues, and you'l be receiv'd into favour absolved from your compact with the Devil and secure your Inheritance, the Curse will be withdrawn, and the Devil will call home his Ministers, and you'l once again be call'd the Island of Saints, and that you may is the Hearty Wish of, C. E.

Farewell and be Wise in Time

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